

Stogumber Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting

Held on Thursday 10th January 2019
at Deane Close Common Room, commencing at 7.30pm

(in the format to be submitted to the next meeting for approval)

Present

Cllrs M Symes (Chair), T Vesey, A White, T Brick
C Morrison-Jones (clerk)
SCC Cllr C Lawrence, WSDC Cllr S Trollope-Bellew

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman, M Symes, took the chair for this meeting

1) To receive any apologies of absence

Cllrs C Bramall, G Tuckfield, C Matravers, V Sellick
The parish council sends their best wishes G Tuckfield and wishes him a speedy recovery

2) Declarations of Interest/Dispensations

AW-Beacon Field (as neighbour)

3) Public comments, questions or suggestions

None

4) District and County Councillor reports

SCC Cllrs C Lawrence

- SCC is one of the pilot areas for business rates retention
- The public health settlement to local authorities has been reduced
- Somerset Wood project. 11,281 trees are to be planted to commemorate the fallen of Somerset in WW1
- Sat 11th May is Somerset Day. It is hoped that each village to do something as a reminder of the assets of Somerset. A fundraising opportunity for the village?

WSDC Cllr A Trollope-Bellew

- Budget for new council: the benefits are starting to show. Budget for next year projects a surplus (expected to save £4.9 million), and hopefully beyond.
- New Chief Executive, James Hassett, for the new council has started work
- Consultants will report in January on options for a Unitary for Somerset
- NP and AONB: may be considered if it can happen quickly then possibly an option. The Glover report is to investigate the practicalities and mechanisms of NP and ANOB extensions. Nothing will happen without a lot of consultation of those it would involve

5) Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 8th November and 15th December 2018

The minutes for the PC meetings held on 8th November and 15th December 2018 were approved by councillors and signed by the Chairman as a true record

6) Matters arising from the minutes

a) Wig Wag lights outside the school

- A letter of support has been gained from PTA
- SCC Highways are in the process of surveying the area and preparing a quote

b) Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda items below

None

7) The Beacon Field

a) Car park construction update

Construction is hoped to be starting soon.

b) Grass let for 2019

P Tapp, last year's tenant, will be taking the grass let again for the 2019 season (May-Dec) at a cost of £250

c) Bookings for Beacon Field Use

Request had been received for 7th January (Funeral parking), 19th January (Wassail), 29th September (PCC Deanery service)

All the dates were agreed by councillors

d) Any other matters concerning the Beacon Field

None

8) Highways / Footpaths

a) Updates on previously reported issues

- i. Slade Close, faulty street light. This has been reported to Magna as these lights have not been adopted by SCC Lighting Team.
- ii. Alms Houses: The bushes have been checked by the area highway superintendent and he does not consider the bushes block visibility or is a safety issue.
- iii. Finger on signpost at Kingswood: Highways responded that unfortunately a bent signpost is not considered a safety issue.
- iv. Cast Iron sign at Preston Lane: This has been forwarded to Jo Sharpe, Traffic Engineer for SCC. A response has not yet been received
- v. Potholes Capton Cross towards Capton: The potholes have been inspected and any considered a safety issue have been marked for repair.
- vi. Potholes Pixies Laughter to Hartrow: The potholes have been inspected and any considered a safety issue have been marked for repair.
- vii. Footpath ramp: The ramp problem has been forwarded to Structures Section in County Hall and they will arrange for a safety inspection to be carried out.

Clerk to chase up outstanding items

b) Winter gritting arrangements in the parish

The clerk reported that the parish grit bins had been reported to SCC for refilling (the 2 in Deane Close are the responsibility of Magna and have been reported to them)

The small salt bags are to be collect from Highways, Minehead. MS volunteered to collect for PC and find a storage position in the village

c) Any issues to report

- i. Pothole: Half way up the road from Ways Hill to Higher Kingswood, opposite Knoll Cottage
- ii. Pothole: Outside the cricket club entrance

Clerk to report new issues

9) Somerset County Council Parish Paths Consultation

The document had been sent to the PPLO for consideration: no matters were considered necessary to report and councillors didn't feel there was anything to submit to the consultation.

However, councillors raised the issue of installing a dog gate at the stile at Keepers Cottage? Clerk to speak to Glen Martin, SCC Footpaths Officer, to see if this were possible

10) 2019-20 Budget / Precept setting

The clerk had previously circulated budget proposals for 2019-20 amongst councillors. A significant cost that has now devolved from SCC to parish councils is the need to provide for any

roadside winter salt and councillors noted that this will have a significant impact on the precept request.

Councillors resolved to set the precept for 2019-20 at £20,000, which will result in a charge of £61.04 for a band D property, a 4.43% increase on 2018-19, with the aim to pay back half of the £5000 CRASH loan (for the construction of the car park splay at the Beacon Field) during 19/20

11) Finances

a) To approve bank reconciliation

Councillors resolved to approve the bank reconciliation, dated 30.11.18, of £30,018.83. £9,118.25 of this balance is held in reserved funds

b) Payments to approve

Clerks Salary	£534.30
HMRC	£52.00
Clerk's expenses	£16.00
Information Commissioner – data protection registration	£40.00

c) Amounts received

2.11.18	Tesco groundworks Beacon field grant	£1,000.00
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d) Any other financial matters

None

12) Planning

a) Previously considered applications – updates

- i. application 3/31/18/010: Change of use of land from agricultural to domestic (retention of works already undertaken) at land to the rear of Archers Grove, Stogumber TA4 3AJ. Granted, with the restriction that no outbuildings, gates, walls or fences shall be constructed without the further grant of planning permission.
- ii. Application T/31/18/001. Notification to carry out management works to one Tulip Tree within Stogumber Conservation Area at South Lodge, Hill Street, Stogumber. No Objection raised
- iii. Application 31/18/002. Application to carry out management works to one group of beech trees included in West Somerset District (Stogumber) Tree Preservation Order T/3/90 at Cheddarmarsh Cottages, Yard Ash Lane, Bicknoller. Withdrawn by applicant
- iv. 31/18/002. Notification to carry out management works to one Katsura tree within Stogumber Conservation Area at Wick Barton, 2-3 Shute Street, Stogumber TA4 3TU. No objection raised

MS thanked TV for chairing planning meeting on 15th December and for other councillors for attending on what was a very wet morning

b) Any other planning matters reported to the clerk before the meeting

- i. A comment passed onto the PC by a parishioner: Planning applications sometimes aren't built to the approved plans. The PC relayed that any breach can be reported to the WSDC Enforcement Officer if there are concerns that the build isn't complying to what is approved. This can be done by any individual as well as the PC
- ii. When planning site meetings are held, the clerk was requested to provide a check list to follow of what information the clerk requires to be fed-back in order to generate the PC response to planners and construct the minutes of the meeting.

13) Any other business by permission of the Chairman

- i. 5th February 2019 - Quantock Hills Management Plan and Landscape Partnership Scheme Workshop – TV offered to attend on behalf of the PC

Being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.49

Stogumber Playground Association Meeting

Held on 10th January 2019, commencing at 8.50pm

At Deane Close Common Room

(in the format to be submitted to the next meeting for approval)

Present

Cllrs M Symes (Chair), T Vesey, A White, T Brick
C Morrison-Jones (clerk)

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman, M Symes, took the chair for this meeting

1) To receive any apologies of absence

Cllrs C Bramall, G Tuckfield, C Matravers, V Sellick

2) Public comments, questions or suggestions

None

3) To approve the minutes of Playground Association meeting held on 8/11/18

The minutes for the meeting held on 8th November 2018 were approved by councillors and signed by the Chairman as a true record

4) Matters arising from the minutes

The clerk had circulated examples of no dog and no parking signs and councillors approved the purchase (2 no dogs and 1 no unapproved parking)

The play area contact signs were still under negotiation with manufacturers. It was noted that also a sign directing people from the road to the play area could also prove necessary as the location of the play area is not immediately obvious from Station Road

Cllr TB apologised as she had to leave the meeting at this point

5) Playground upkeep

a) Any issues raised in the routine inspections

- i) TV reported that the gate post (on the left) is broken. This is because the drain overflows and causing the gate post to rot away. The drain overflow is also causing silt deposits over the car park. Councillors believe that the drain is the responsibility of Magna, and as their faulty drain has caused the problem with the gate post they should be responsible for a new gate post.
- ii) The fence along Waverdine that forms the boundary to the housing estate also needs 3 new posts. The clerk was requested to approach Magna in regards to the above two issues

b) Update regarding repairs /maintenance

None

6) Necessary Tree works

A tree survey conducted by Magna reported damage to the Goat Willow in the playground. CB & TV had been to inspect the tree and CB has arranged for a local contractor to carry out the necessary pruning works.

7) Consider new equipment purchases

It was decided to defer this item to the next meeting

8) Finance

a) Payments to approve

None

b) Amounts received

None

c) Approve bank reconciliation

A bank reconciliation, dated 30.11.18, had previously circulated by the clerk and shows £654.59 in available funds. Councillors agreed that this represented a true record and it was signed by the chairman

d) Any other financial matters

The clerk reported that the Annual Return for the Play Ground Association to March 2018, has now been filed online with the charity commission.

9) Any other business by permission of the Chairman

The Village Hall is holding a Village Freshers Day on 9th March.

Councillors agreed that it would be good for the Play Ground Association and the Parish Council to be represented. The clerk was asked to prepare literature for the event outlining what the PC has done in the last 4 years, future plans and information about the play area encouraging villagers to offer some time to help with maintaining and improving the area

Being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.23